

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling the fuel supply to a fuel cell system comprising at least one fuel cell, in which power withdrawn from the fuel cell and provided to a consuming device is repetitively switched on during a switched-on interval and switched off during a pause interval, in a timed manner via an electric connection between the fuel cell and the consuming device, as a function of [[the]] currently available fuel existing in the fuel cell relative to a power demand from said consuming device, wherein said method comprises:

controlling a quantity of fuel supplied to the fuel cell system is ~~controlled~~ as a function of a ~~pause-to-switch-on~~ pause-to-switch-on ratio between a duration of said pause interval and a duration of said switched-on interval of said electric connection, such that, ~~based on~~ an actual value of the pause to switch-on ratio [[,]] is regulated to conform to a preset target predefined-desired value of the pause to switch-on ratio-is restored.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the ~~predefined~~ preset target value of the pause-to-switch-on ~~pause-to-switch-on~~ ratio is less than ~~selected to be below~~ approximately $P/E = 10\% / 90\%$.

Claim 3. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the quantity of fuel is supplied to a gas generating system in which a hydrogen-containing gas is generated for operation of the fuel cell.

Claim 4. (Cancelled)

Claim 5. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the quantity of supplied fuel is selected such that the quantity of fuel offered to the fuel cell or of hydrogen-containing gas generated from the fuel is always smaller than a quantity of fuel or of hydrogen – containing gas generated from the fuel, which can be converted by the fuel cell.

Claim 6. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein a PID control is used for controlling the quantity of supplied fuel.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein:

~~the control of the quantity of supplied fuel takes place such~~
~~that~~ a new ~~[[fuel]]~~ quantity of supplied fuel is determined at least from the
product of ~~[[the]]~~ a previous ~~[[fuel]]~~ quantity of supplied fuel and a
correction factor; and ~~[[,]]~~

the correction factor ~~including~~ includes at least the ~~desired~~
values target value and actual values of the ~~pause-to-switch-on~~ pause-to-
switch-on ratio (P/E).

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim
7, wherein the correction factor is the sum of one plus the difference
between the ~~desired~~ preset target value and ~~[[the]]~~ a current actual value
of the ~~pause-to-switch-on~~ pause-to-switch-on ratio.

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim
7, wherein:

the product also includes a damping factor which is between
0.1 and 1; and

in the case of a ~~relatively smaller~~ first actual value of the
~~pause-to-switch-on~~ pause-to-switch-on ratio, the damping factor is smaller
than in the case of a ~~relatively larger~~ second actual value of the pause to

switch-on ratio, which second actual value is larger than said first actual value.

Claim 10. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the fuel cell system is a mobile fuel cell system.

Claim 11. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling operation of a fuel cell in a fuel cell system, comprising:

regulating a power output of said fuel cell by repeatedly opening and closing a connection between an output of said fuel cell and an electrical load; and

controlling a flow of fuel to said fuel cell system as a function of an open/close ratio of said connection, said open/close ratio being a ratio of an amount of time when said connection is open and an amount of time when said connection is closed during said repeated opening and closing.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 11, wherein said controlling step comprises performing closed loop control of said flow of fuel, using a negative feedback process, based on a difference between an actual value of said open/close ratio and a desired

target value of said open/close ratio, such that said actual value conforms to said target value.

Claim 13. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 12, wherein: ~~the control of~~

the quantity of supplied fuel ~~takes place~~ is controlled such that a new fuel quantity is determined at least from the product of ~~[[the]]~~ a previous fuel quantity and a correction factor; and ~~[[,]]~~

the correction factor ~~including~~ includes at least the ~~desired values~~ target value and actual values of the ~~pause-to-switch-on~~ pause-to-switch-on ratio (P/E).

Claim 14. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 13, wherein the correction factor is the sum of one plus the difference between the ~~desired~~ target value and the actual value of the ~~pause-to-switch-on~~ pause-to-switch-on ratio.